

## ABSTRACT

The present invention relates to an apparatus for filtering a gas or liquid stream such as a natural gas stream. The apparatus includes a closed vessel having a longitudinally extending length, an initially open interior, an input port at one extent and an output port at an opposite extent thereof. A partition located within the vessel interior divides the vessel interior into a first stage and a second stage. At least one opening is provided in the partition. A filter element is disposed within the vessel to extend from within the first stage. The filter element is easily mounted or removed from the vessel by rotating a J-slot engagement surface on the element which mates with a post provided on a mounting structure provided on the vessel partition.